

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

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11. (twice amended) A method of detecting expression of the protein encoded by the DNA of claim 1, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting mRNA obtained from a cell with a labeled hybridization probe [corresponding to] comprising all or part of an open reading frame encoding a protein of SEQ ID No. 7 [of said DNA]; and

(b) detecting hybridization of said probe with said mRNA.

REMARKS

The 35 U.S.C. §112 Rejection

Claims 1 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as lacking enablement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended herein to recite "isolated and purified DNA". Section a) of claim 1 has been amended to recite "DNA consisting of the sequence shown in SEQ ID No. 6". As amended, the claim no longer reads upon chromosomal DNA.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 4-8 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 4 has been amended herein to clarify that the claim refers to a vector comprising the regulatory elements and the DNA of claim 1. Claim 11 has been amended to state that the probe comprises all or part of an open reading frame encoding SEQ ID No. 7. Thus, the probe may comprise all of SEQ ID No. 6, part of SEQ ID No. 6, or all or part of another DNA which contains an open reading frame encoding a protein with an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID No. 7. The amended claim also clearly states that the probe is from an open reading frame encoding a protein of SEQ ID No. 7. This language prevents any confusion with the other two open reading frames of said DNA. These amendments resolve all of the issues raised by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

This is intended to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed August 18, 1999. Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain, please telephone the attorney of record for immediate resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

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